

Evening Public Ledger

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Member of the Associated Press THE ASSOCIATED PRESS is exclusively entitled to the use for republication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this paper, and also the local news published therein.

WHISKY FOR THE SICK THE decision of Judge Dickinson in the Federal Court that the saloonkeeper who sells whisky to be given to a sick man is not guilty of violating the law seems to nullify the wartime prohibition statute.

THE RESULT IN JERSEY ONE of the candidates who opposed Mr. Bugbee in the run for the Republican nomination for the governorship in New Jersey yesterday was pledged to rip out the state public utilities commission because of the zone-fare decision.

ACTION IN THE TAXI PROBE INQUIRY into the taxi-stand graft is taking form which the public can applaud. The Hotel Owners' Association and the automobile cab companies are to be given the opportunity to tell the truth concerning a practice which is said to be largely responsible for high taxi fares.

SHIPS, SHIPS, SHIPS! PHILADELPHIA'S foreign shipping record is broken at the auspicious moment when dominant forces in the American mercantile marine foresee a permanence for the new position of the national flag upon the high seas.

BRITAIN'S LEAGUE POWERS SENATOR REED damages his case against the league-of-nations covenant by intemperate denunciation of Mr. Wilson.

REED CONTROL IS MENACING THE FEDERATION OF LABOR Foster, Who Inspired the Steel Strike, Is Not a Trades Unionist, but a Propagandist of Social Revolution

THE new raised scale occasioned by the war prevails virtually the world round. "The outlook," declares P. A. S. Franklin, of the laws committee of the United States shipping board, "seems to indicate that all the shipping laws as they now stand may not be so unworkable as the ordinary understanding declares they are."

FIGURES DISCLOSED at the committee's meeting proved that one-quarter of the shipping of the globe is now under the American flag. The value of this tonnage is equal to that of the whole world's shipping in 1914.

There is a thrill in this summation of prodigious enterprise. There is even deeper stimulation in the prospect that the American mercantile armada is not going to fade like an unsubstantial pageant.

THE thieves at present in control of the industries must be stripped of their loot. The social reorganization will be a revolution.

THAT cheerful sentence is from a recent book—bound, of course, in flaming red—which bears the name of William Z. Foster as co-author with another and less conspicuous visionary.

Mr. Foster is the man who has been organizing the steel and iron workers under the auspices of the Federation of Labor. He is presumed to be the animating genius behind the present strike.

If, at the hearing which the Senate wisely ordered yesterday, Mr. Foster is properly questioned, the country at large may be permitted to get a new insight into the actual origin and purpose of the recent strike order.

But it is for the intelligent rank and file of the Federation of Labor itself that astonishment seemingly is in store.

THE prestige of the organization has been relied upon in this instance for the development of a scheme of labor control that is frankly revolutionary, avowedly opposed to the existing order of government and cheerfully dependent upon coercion and violence.

For Mr. Foster is a fervid advocate of syndicalism—which is anarchy in an organized form. The method of conquest which he has been recommending to dissatisfied labor recommends sabotage, crime and every conceivable method that may be applied to bring about industrial paralysis.

A year or two ago the man who appears to have inspired the steel workers in the present instance was suggesting ardently in print that workers in America could best obtain a stranglehold on society by tightly organizing all men in the basic industries in order that they might stop transportation and the production of essential commodities whenever they were ready to assert their right to rule the nation.

If the Senate will look into the more recent literature of American radicals it will perhaps be able to perceive the actual motive which caused the leaders of the steel men's organization to refuse the President's request for a postponement of the strike order in order to permit a review of the disputed issues by the coming industrial conference.

Many of the demands made by the steel workers' representatives were unfair. Some of the conditions which they proposed were impossible. From the viewpoint of Mr. Fitzpatrick and Mr. Foster a strike seemed more desirable than an adjustment.

Wages have been good in the steel industry. What the strike leaders seem to have desired was to create among their followers a sense of oppression and the dynamic sentimentalism such as often bind those who are drawn together in a common cause. By this means the leaders hoped, apparently, to quicken the slow work of their organizers.

The strike, so far as it has progressed, is for the most part a demonstration by foreign-born workers. It was planned to be a national crisis. Instead it has become a crisis for the Federation of Labor, which, first in Boston and now in the steel industry, finds its name and influence used to sustain the half-made theories that left the stupendous ruin in Russia and poverty and despair over half of Europe to prove their crazy futility.

The stupidity and cruelty of the old regime in the steel industry cannot be defended. The methods that still prevail under an inherited policy are a blight on some parts of the industry.

face of the strike preliminaries can understand Gary's refusal to deal with the thing which Foster and his associates represent.

The Senate hearing ought to show whether other Reds in disguise are controlling the policies of the Federation of Labor without knowledge of the masses of intelligent workers who compose that organization.

If they are, the federation hasn't much time in which to save its life.

From Russia to the west of England bolshevism has killed everything it touched.

BRITAIN'S LEAGUE POWERS

SENATOR REED damages his case against the league-of-nations covenant by intemperate denunciation of Mr. Wilson.

The President seriously weakens his position by withholding from the public so important an interpretation of the league covenant as is the letter which he and Lloyd George and Clemenceau signed and dispatched to Sir Robert Borden, premier of Canada.

The British Government is transparently casuistic in rating India, which has a vote in the league assembly, as a self-governing colony.

The whole vital question of British authority in the international partnership, which is now concerning the Senate, is bedeviled with partisan prejudice on the one hand and misrepresented by egotistic obstinacy on the other.

The American public is not composed exclusively of international lawyers. Mr. Reed tells them one thing. The President flatly contradicts it. To complete the conflict, the covenant itself fails to shed the desired light on the matter of the British voting power.

What is the average citizen, unacquainted with the legal powers of a Root or a Taft, to think? Whatever Mr. Reed's motives in bringing up the point, the public is his debtor if clarification of the subject ensues.

The President has committed a two-fold mistake. In his recent speech he has told only part of the story by insisting that although Great Britain by the ranking of her major dependencies as national entities has six votes in the assembly, yet in the council of the league, which is the determining body, the British empire has but a single vote.

Sophistry and apparent truth are neatly dovetailed here. That the explanation is inadequate is disclosed by the damaging letter contending that the "self-governing dominions of the British empire may be selected or named as members of the council."

By his disinclination to be frank concerning a communication of such moment the President of the United States has presented a vulnerable front to an opponent whose record is notoriously unwholesome and oblique. To decent Americans it comes as a disagreeable shock to be championed by James A. Reed, marked as the pestiferous antagonist of the indispensable Herbert C. Hoover. It was equally distasteful to be compelled to heed Senator Norris when he disclosed the Shantung blunder.

Yet if Norris, who opposed the war, and Reed, who vilified Hoover, have significant facts to report it is imperative for the public to consider them. That the President has laid himself open to attacks by men of such caliber is deeply regrettable. It is one of the many penalties of self-seclusion in a critical period.

At the present moment it is true that the British empire has but a single vote in the council of the league of nations. That is because the members of that body are the "principal Allied and associated powers," the United States, Britain, France, Italy and Japan. Four additional members of the council "shall be selected by the assembly from time to time."

Until the league machinery is in motion, however, the first four powers in the rotation system are specifically named in the covenant. They are Belgium, Brazil, Spain and Greece.

But by the Wilson-Lloyd George-Clemenceau reading of the pact as expressed in the letter to Premier Borden, the five alleged self-governing dependencies of the British empire (including India) are eligible for entrance into the council on the same basis as sovereign nations. It is in the power of the assembly to enable Great Britain to have five votes in the council. Mr. Wilson has been hitherto silent on this possibility.

Mr. Reed is stridently vocal. The letter supports him.

Can the council, all action of which, unless otherwise specified, must be unanimous, reject selections made "from time to time" by the assembly? The covenant has nothing to say on this theme.

It is indefinite, moreover, concerning whether or not the assembly shall choose the rotation members of the council by unanimous vote. If the entire assembly must agree before the four transitory members be elevated to the council, the United States is by its veto power armed against British control. It is conceivable that there may be occasions in which this country would gladly wish to admit Australia or Canada to the council. There are crises imaginable when so many British imperial votes in the upper chamber would place our legitimate interests in serious jeopardy.

America's entrance into the league must be contingent upon a clear understanding of these questions. The senatorial inquiry is a good thing. The President's plaudit and the venom of Reed are subjects subordinate to an exact and unequivocal realization of just what the international partnership—in itself a splendid ideal—will mean to this country.

The taxi investigation The immediate issue just completed by the Public Service Commission will cause little excitement among the much-talked-of proletariat. What most people are worried about is the dwindling portions of what you might call corned beef and taxi-cabbage.

CONGRESSMAN MOORE'S LETTER

Prospect of a Hog Island Investigation. Gossip About Clinton R. Woodruff and Captain J. W. Emery, Robert Grier and Others

Washington, Sept. 24. INVESTIGATING committees appointed by the Republicans to inquire into war expenditures are still digging away with the prospect for a number of important reports.

The promise of General Pershing to lay all foreign military transactions before the Senate and the House at an early date is reassuring, in view of the refusal of the general on the other side of the water to appear before a subcommittee of the Graham investigating committee, which went abroad to follow up certain clues with respect to waste and extravagance.

The shipping board inquiry, which is under the direction of Mr. Walsh, of Massachusetts, has been conducted largely along the Pacific coast up to the present time, but it is coming East, and in due course will reach Boston, New York, Philadelphia and points south.

Expenditures at Hog Island and other shipyards are likely to come under the purview of this committee. Concerning Hog Island, the recent statement of President Matthew C. Brush that there is enough contract work ahead to keep the yard going another year is being commented on and is now inviting a comparison of the cost of ship construction at home and abroad.

THERE is no minimizing the import of recent labor outbreaks. The policemen's strike in Boston has given concern to the national legislators and they have been commencing upon Mayor Ellis's efforts to keep down disorder in Camden. Just how the demands of labor are to be met is one of the grave questions with national statesmen.

The announcement by Chairman Good, of the appropriations committee, that there would be a deficit approximating \$3,000,000,000 this year has had a sobering effect upon everybody. The people demand a reduction of taxes. The federal government is faced with the necessity of continuing existing taxes for some time to come.

The war brought on such a change in our economic conditions as to make the aftermath worthy the study of the country's most careful thinkers. The problem is: How are we going to keep profits and wages up and taxes down? It is a hard nut to crack.

FRANCIS A. LEWIS, E. Spencer Miller and Dr. George Woodruff belong to that group of Philadelphians who believe that the Vero forces were fairly beaten in the recent majority contest and that the city will be the gainer by a change of administration. It is noteworthy how widespread was the interest in the Philadelphia election. Not only those in the vicinity of Philadelphia watched the returns, but New York, Baltimore, Washington and Pittsburgh, to say nothing of Atlantic City, were stirred up over the situation.

CLINTON ROGERS WOODRUFF, in addition to being a registration commissioner—and, by the way, he was one of the proponents of the law providing for a local registration—has a fine time to edit the social service department of one of the magazines and also to act as secretary of the National Municipal League. He is also president of the Social Service Commission of the Episcopal Church.

CAPTAIN JOHN W. EMERY, who used to be the Beau Brummell of the police force, is engaged on a piece of work in Brooklyn, but he found time to go over to Philadelphia to vote. So did Vic Hamilton, of the Seventh ward, who has been finishing up a contract in Luzerne county. The practical fellows in politics, no matter what the sacrifice, know the value of the individual vote, and they usually come home to cast it.

The suggestion is often heard in political campaigns that a man who is entitled to vote and fails to register, or to vote after he has registered, is not a good citizen. In the recent mayoralty campaign comment went even so far as to suggest the propriety of legislation which would in some way penalize those who enjoy the protection of the law and yet fail to exercise the right of suffrage. Some day this question of indifference or neglect of the voter may become an issue.

CHARLES B. CARTER, secretary of the National Association of Hosiery and Underwear Manufacturers, has forwarded to Congress an affidavit certifying to the signatures of 300 reputable corporations, firms and individuals, protesting against a dye-heating commission as proposed in the Longworth dye tariff bill. Many of these signers are Philadelphians.

JOSEPH RODGERS, sergeant-at-arms of the House of Representatives, and Harry Nesbit went over from Washington to vote at the Philadelphia primaries. They reported that the capital was immensely interested in the election and that buttons of the candidates were being freely worn in Washington. They returned in time to get a glimpse of the great Pershing demonstration.

WILLIAM R. LESTER, who talks as he writes, and who writes in that fine style which betokens the well-trained newspaper man, has a string of stories about the late William M. Singler which are worth being set down in the memoirs of famous Philadelphians. Lester's stories go back to the days when Singler was not only beloved by all the boys who worked with him on his newspaper, but was the typical Democrat who helped to make and unmake candidates in the city and state. Singler finally became a candidate himself, running for the office of governor. He had helped to make Robert E. Pattison governor, but like other key makers, failed to land on his own account.

ROBERT GRIER is still popular at the Corinthian Yacht Club, Cape May. Robert keeps up his interest in cruisers and motorboats, notwithstanding his activities for the Republican Alliance. The way Robert explained the election and that buttons of the candidates were being freely worn in Washington. They returned in time to get a glimpse of the great Pershing demonstration.

"Sure, it may be so at that," said she— "And a thought grew bright in the eye of Pegg— "But as for myself, I do always be Concerned with the blind hen's egg." FRANCIS CARLIN.

Bertha's Eyes (After Charles Baudelaire) EYES famous and august I hold in high disdain, But, ah, my darling's eyes, that filter clear and free Hints of sweet, shadowy good, like the night's perfumed rain: Dear eyes of charm and shade, turn back again to me!

The eyes my darling hath are mysteries adored, That glitter in my sight like occult, given caves, Within whose depths there lie bright treasures, but ignored, Hid by the lazy clusters of the shadows of their graves.

My darling's haunting eyes are vast, profound, obscure; Immemities of night, and morning's sparks they know!

A LITTLE NONSENSE NOW AND THEN



THE ELECTRIC CHAIR

The Classroom Recopms (In Memoriam Francis B. Gummore) ACROSS the fields the scent of autumn days, The bronze and russet hills, the dim blue haze,

Once more the old familiar classrooms fill: The clustered feet come trampling o'er the sill. But vanished is the well-remembered face That waited by the desk. We see him still.

This was his lecture room, and when he spoke Ah, what a vision on our senses broke! We saw the pagantry of human mind And all the sense of wonder in its woe.

And every haunted music English bore: From out the heart of man, seemed in his store: How like the clang of swords his voice could bring! The blood and anger of the ballad bore!

In this his room it never was his plan To stut his teaching to a narrow span— And most of all, we learned by watching him How Nature blends a scholar and a man.

What humor, and what charm! We all adored him for his gracious gift of speech; In him his favorite line was born again: "And gladly would he learn, and gladly teach."

The Blind Men A BLIND hen walked through the open door From the earth of a haggard wild with worms, But she seemed to know that the earthen floor Had nothing that crawls nor squirms.

For she neither pecked nor scratched the clay Of the kitchen's ground, where Pegg McGirr Has fed her by hand since the dreadful day That a magpie swooped on her.

"Faith, the tale concerning the tempered wind And the naked sheep, is as true as 'true,' Said I to Pegg; "For this hen, now blind, Is helped by the Lord through you."

The Average Golfer

"This stroke is not for the average golfer, however"—From an expert distinction on golf. THE average golfer! Some call him a dub. He's stiffish and angular swinging a club; He's painfully lacking in style debonair, But does under eighty strokes—brushing his hair.

The average golfer has never met "par"; A hole under six is to him cavalier. He traces each bunker and trap to its source, And sometimes the language he uses is coarse.

The average golfer in making a round Sows largely the landscape with spheroids unfound. Every tenet of form he is known to infringe; The eyes of his caddie induce him to cringe.

The average golfer, though—here is the nub— May break all his clubs but he keeps up the club. The cracks and the kickers some gratitude owe; He digs up the divots but likewise the dough.

The average golfer is strong from the tee That follows the eighteenth in fellowship free; And while one can't class him top hole at the sport, No one can deny that he is a good sort.

The average golfer with me makes a hit! Unhalted and unbalanced, he does his bit. My vote I'll record to keep him off the shelf— You see I'm an average golfer myself. —Maurice Morris, in the New York Sun.

What Do You Know?

QUIZ 1. How much of the world's shipping tonnage is now under the American flag?

2. What is the correct pronunciation of the word cantaloupe?

3. What state in the Union has the most towns of 50,000 inhabitants or over?

4. What is a monniker?

5. What part of the United States is sometimes called the "Pie Belt"?

6. Who was the foremost American advocate of the single tax?

7. What is a commando?

8. What is a caudat?

9. What is the origin of the word?

10. What is the nationality of Emmy Destiny, the opera singer?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz 1. Rhode Island took no part whatever in the formation of the federal constitution.

2. A Helvetian is a citizen of Switzerland.

3. Captain Boycott was an Irish landlord, who was ostracized by an Irish peasants' uprising. His name passed into the language as a verb meaning to refuse to deal with or to take notice of or to sell to a person.

4. Belgium formed itself into an independent state in 1830.

5. Cirencester should be pronounced as though it were spelled "cis-sister," with the accent on the first syllable.

6. An heir presumptive is one who will be heir if no one is born having a prior claim.

7. A dottle is a kind of plover.

8. An opal is regarded as unlucky for the same reason that peacock feathers are so considered. According to superstition an opal is an eye stone and introduced into a house it will interfere with the sanctity of domestic privacy.

9. "He was the mildest-mannered man that ever settled ship or cut a throat!" is from Byron's "Don Juan."

10. Levi P. Morton was Vice President during the administration of Benjamin Harrison.

Desk Mottos The epigram shows us truth in the embrace of a lie. O. W. FIRKINS.

Inventors WE MARVEL when the night is driven away By lights innumerable, of genius born— Yet more than at an Edison today I wonder at a certain hairy man Back in the fog where history began, Who, musing in some desert waste forlorn, Took up a pointed stick and shaped an A. J. M. BEATTY.

It seems that George Creel has taken to writing ads for a will-power corporation. This certainly marks the breach that has appeared between Mr. Creel and his former employer. [For we all remember what the latter once said about willful mortals.] SOCRATES.

Speaking in the terms of aviation suggested by the tour of Mr. Wilson's trailers, one might say that Senator Hi Johnson's first name fits him perfectly. Ludendorff and Tirpitz had to write books before the world could know what thundering sees they actually are.